



July 28, 2003

Herbert W. A. Thiele, County Attorney
Leon County Courthouse
2nd Floor, Room 202
301 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Term of Office for Architectural Review Board Members

Dear Herb:

At its July 22, 2003, meeting, the Board of County Commissioners voted to amend the ARB's bylaws to eliminate the restriction that limits each member to no more than two full consecutive terms. Stan Chapman, representing the Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation, requests that the City Commission take the same action since the ARB is a joint board.

As noted in your memo to the Board of County Commissioners on July 24, 2003, not only must the bylaws be amended, but also the Leon County Code since it includes the two-term restriction. Likewise, the City Code includes the two-term restriction for the ARB in Section 4.5.B of Chapter 27 of the City Code, the Zoning, Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations.

In addition to the two-term restriction for the ARB, the City has a similar restriction for its other citizen boards. The City Commission Policy related to Citizen Boards and Committees (Policy No. 110CP), approved June 24, 1992, provides that "an appointee ... shall not serve more than two full consecutive terms." Because the two-term restriction reflects a long-standing City Commission policy and it applies to all of the City's citizen boards, we will not be able to recommend that the City Commission remove the two-term restriction from the ARB regulations and bylaws. We encourage the Board of County Commissioners to reconsider its action on this matter.

Sincerely,


James R. English
City Attorney

cc: Stanley J. Chapman, Esquire
Cherry Shaw, Assistant County Attorney
Michael Wright, Assistant City Manager
Val Hubbard, Interim Planning Director

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